AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing Of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for operating an internal combustion engine of a motor vehicle, the method comprising:

supplying fuel under a pressure to a fuel accumulator;

injecting the fuel into a combustion chamber of the engine via a fuel injector;

ascertaining a coking of the fuel injector; [[and]]

implementing a first fuel-pressure increase if the coking exceeds a threshold value; and

repeating the first fuel-pressure increase, wherein the first fuel-pressure increase is implemented for a predefined time period.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) A method for operating an internal combustion engine of a motor vehicle, the method comprising:

supplying fuel under a pressure to a fuel accumulator;

injecting the fuel into a combustion chamber of the engine via a fuel injector;

ascertaining a coking of the fuel injector;

implementing a first fuel-pressure increase if the coking exceeds a threshold value;

repeating the first fuel-pressure increase; and [[The method according to claim 1, further comprising]] ending the repeating of the first fuel-pressure increase when the coking falls below a threshold value.

5. (Currently Amended) A method for operating an internal combustion engine of a motor vehicle, the method comprising:

supplying fuel under a pressure to a fuel accumulator;

injecting the fuel into a combustion chamber of the engine via a fuel injector;

ascertaining a coking of the fuel injector;

implementing a first fuel-pressure increase if the coking exceeds a threshold value;

repeating the first fuel-pressure increase; and [[The method according to claim 3, further comprising]] ending the repeating of the first fuel-pressure increase when a number of repeats exceeds a threshold value.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 5, further comprising activating a second fuel-pressure increase when the coking exceeds a further threshold value.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 6, further comprising deactivating the second fuel-pressure increase when the coking falls below the threshold value.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 6, wherein the second fuel-pressure increase is activated only if the repeating of the first fuel-pressure increase is ended in that the number of repeats exceeds the threshold value.

9. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium containing a computer program which, when executed by a processor of a motor vehicle having an internal combustion engine, performs the following method:

supplying fuel under a pressure to a fuel accumulator;

injecting the fuel into a combustion chamber of the engine via a fuel injector;

ascertaining a coking of the fuel injector;

implementing a first fuel-pressure increase if the coking exceeds a threshold value; and

repeating the first fuel-pressure increase, wherein the first fuel-pressure increase is implemented for a predefined time period.

10. (Currently Amended) A control device of a motor vehicle having an internal combustion engine for performing the following:

supplying fuel under a pressure to a fuel accumulator;

injecting the fuel into a combustion chamber of the engine via a fuel injector;

ascertaining a coking of the fuel injector;

implementing a first fuel-pressure increase if the coking exceeds a threshold value; and

repeating the first fuel-pressure increase, wherein the first fuel-pressure increase is implemented for a predefined time period.

11. (Currently Amended) An internal combustion engine of a motor vehicle comprising a control device for performing the following:

supplying fuel under a pressure to a fuel accumulator;

injecting the fuel into a combustion chamber of the engine via a fuel injector;

ascertaining a coking of the fuel injector;

implementing a first fuel-pressure increase if the coking exceeds a threshold value; and

repeating the first fuel-pressure increase, wherein the first fuel-pressure increase is implemented for a predefined time period.